

MONTHLY MEETING Friday February 19, 2016

7:30pm

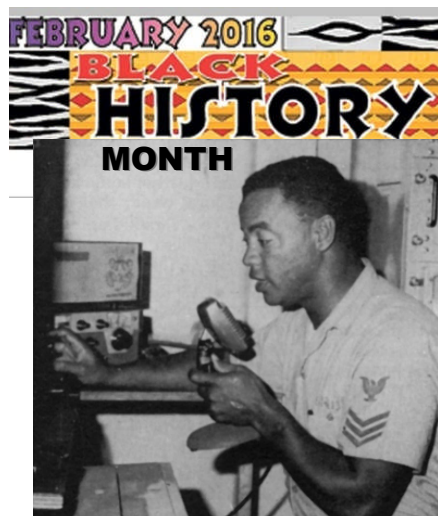
Our Saviors Lutheran Church

1035 Carol Lane Lafayette

License Testing 6pm

DX Interest Group 6:30pm

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USN RM1 Vernard Grady (1930-2007)
WB6VES, aboard the hospital ship
USS Repose off Vietnam in 1967.
(photo from ARRL)

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

Suburban Radio Fun in the Cradle of Radio



Bart Lee, K6VK



Our speaker is Bart Lee, K6VK; Counsel Emeritus & Historical Archivist, California Historical Radio Society. His topic is "The Russians are Coming!" or, "Suburban Radio Fun in the Cradle of Radio."

We'll be swapping our normal meeting procedure this month. The speaker will go first, at 7:30 pm, followed by the business meeting. Be sure to get there on time, so you don't miss any of Bart's presentation.

Also this month, in addition to Janice's world famous pie, we'll have a second door prize at the meeting...a Wouxun KG-UV3D dual band multifunctional hand-held transceiver for 2 meters & 222 MHz. So make sure you pick up a few door prize tickets when you arrive.

As always, we'll have license testing and our DX Special Interest group before the main meeting.

73, President Mike Patterson, N6JGA

When you purchase at Amazon dot com smile, a portion of your purchase is donated to our club.

Go to:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7072059>

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW CLUB MEMBERS !

**Rae Atwood, K6RAE
Dennis Casparie, W7AYT
Ray Cloutier, KK6KHA
Alex Crites, KE5EVB
James Crites, KF6FCV
Ed Dunphy, KK6RQD
Donald L. Emerson, KG6RZZ
Gary G. Estrella, W6GGE
Mark Fehlig, WA6NGC
Michael Furtado, KK6YFT
David S. Hadley, K2DSH
Mark Koelmel, KG5JFT
Ted Llewellyn, KG6ADH
Gary Lodge, KJ6APB
Anthony Mazy, KI6FZC
Robert Robason, KG6LIB
Andrew Schofield, N2AJS
Cheryl Schofield, K6WCP
Miriam Teitgen, KJ6ULP
Stephen Teitgen, KJ6ULV
Marcus Williford KJ6OYD
Maria Williford, KJ6OYE**

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE CLUB YAHOO GROUP.
DOWNLOAD FILES, INCLUDING *THE CARRIER* IN **FULL COLOR** AS WELL AS SHARE INFORMATION WITH THE MEMBERSHIP AT:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mdarc>

Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX
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(925) 288-1730

The Carrier is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and provided space is available.

President - Mike Patterson, N6JGA
Vice President - Will Dickson, WB6YGI
Secretary - Dick Fletcher, AF9RF
Treasurer - Cathi Walton, KJ6YNO

Technical Committee Chair
Jim Siemons, AF6PU

Directors At Large
Trevor Hall, WA6JAU Mitchell Boyce, W8DOD
Janice Fujii, KG6VTD Francis O'Leary, KF6FRJ

Emergency Coordinator - Ron Bunch, W4FEK

PACIFICON 2016

Chair: (Vacant)
Registration: Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE
Treasurer: Jim Siemons, AF6PU
Secretary: Pete Harris, KE6ZIW
Web Page: Mike Patterson, N6JGA

Membership Chair - Tom Deeble, KA6SIP
mdarcmembership@mdarc.org

Website - David Schild, KK6CQX
Repeater Trustee - Jay Caldis, KT6Y
Education & Training Chair - John Primus, AF6RJ
License Testing - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB
Public Service - Pete Harris, KE6ZIW
Outreach Coordinator - Jim Siemons, AF6PU
Field Day Chair—Vacant
Refreshments: Elizabeth Styles KG6HLV
Holiday Party - Misa Siemons KJ6BUE
Trailer - Patrick Miller, KK6DBX

The Carrier Newsletter
Editor, Matthew G. Vurek, N4DLA
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PRESIDENT'S QTC

Punxsutawney Phil, Pennsylvania's most famous groundhog, did not see his shadow this year, predicting an early Spring; and Daylight Savings Time is only a month away. Based on the weather we're having this week, Spring may have already begun here in California. Which is about right, because the Club's committees are cranking up for a busy year.

The Board has reviewed and approved the Club's budget for 2016. It's provided in this issue. Our Outreach Coordinator is busy designing a new Club banner to use at Field Day, Public Service events, Pacificon and other activities. He's also getting an increasing number of calls on the Club phone line, with requests ranging from information on our speakers, to help with Baofeng radio programming to getting on the air with D-STAR.

Our Field Day committee is very busy planning for that big weekend, with more active stations and activities than we've had before. We're doing a joint event this year with the Walnut Creek CERT organization, who will be setting up a number of displays, demonstrations and functions in the Community Hall next to our Field Day location. A bunch of other activities are in the planning works as well. So set aside June 25-26 on your calendar to come spend the day with us. We'll have a great time.

Our Education and Training Committee is several weeks into its Technician Class course. They'll test their students on March 3, then hold a couple of Get on the Air (GOTA) sessions to help all those new hams get started. After that, they'll jump right into a General Class upgrade course. See <http://www.mdarc.org/activities/education/Classes-2016> for a complete schedule and information on how to register.

Several Auxiliary classes on individual topics are being planned for this summer. Past classes have been on antennas for handheld radios, Morse Code, the Incident Command System, Echolink and IRLP, among many others. If there's a topic you'd like to learn more about, send your request to our Education chair, John Primus, AF6RJ, at af6rj@arrl.net.

Our Technical Committee has been really busy lately. The Amateur Television (ATV) group has started a technical workshop net every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm. You can monitor the video and audio directly on our ATV system or, if you don't have an ATV receiver, watch the stream at <http://www.w6cxatv.net/live>. You can also listen in on our 2-meter system. Ask questions and get answers on any ham-related topic, not just ATV, through either the ATV or 2-meter systems.

Some big news is that the Technical Committee successfully combined our D-Star system onto the 2-meter repeater system antennas, moving that signal much higher up the tower. If you're a D-Star user that had trouble using our repeater in the past, try it again and let us know how much the signal has improved. The Committee is also working with the Northern Amateur Relay Council of California (NARCC) to resolve harmful interference some of our 2-meter repeater users are receiving from a station that has set up shop on our frequency pair in Coalinga.

Some sad news is that the Washington High School Net, which ran each Monday evening on our system for many years, is currently on hiatus. Nathan Ng, the net control for the net, has now moved from San Francisco City College to UC Santa Cruz, where he continues his studies in electrical engineering and computer science (congratulations, Nathan!). He's been trying to find someone to take over the net, but has not yet been successful. If you know someone who could run the net, especially if they're a student or teacher at Washington High School in San Francisco, please let us know.

Remember that our annual Auction will replace our normal meeting in April. We'll have a lot of excellent stuff on the auction block this year, thanks to some generous donations. So start getting your excess gear ready to sell and plan to be ready for some lively bidding.

Also, April is when our Public Service season usually begins. Pete Harris, KE6ZIW, our committee chair, will soon start looking for volunteers. Please consider signing up. There is no better way to improve your ham skills.

The Digital Media Committee continues its work to improve the Club web site. Several new features have been added recently, including a Club Announcements section on the home page, a short tutorial on coaxial and ladder line cable, a glossary of amateur radio related terms and acronyms and a lot of other great information. Take a look; and let us know if there's something more we should have.

Pacificon 2016 is off to an excellent start, with the Committee putting in the first few hundred of the several thousand hours it takes to plan the conference each year. The new web site is almost ready to go live and registration will open up in the next few weeks, as soon as we get all the needed information locked down. Every year we have the conference, we learn things that make it even better next time. So don't miss Pacificon this year, October 14-16, 2016.

We have a great and vibrant Club, doing a lot of things for the benefit of our members and the Ham community at large. But we have ideas to do even more. All we need are people to help do them. Also, consider that many of our veteran members have been participating in the Club activities for a long time. Someday, all of them will be retiring from their current positions and we'll need people to replace them. So please help us by volunteering for the Club. No experience necessary; we'll provide that. Our Club and all the activities we do can't exist unless you volunteer.

73 until next time,

Mike Patterson, N6JGA
President



Board Meeting minutes January 4, 2016

Presided over by President, Mike Patterson, N6JGA

Recorded by R. Fletcher, AF9RF Secretary

The meeting took place at 7:00 pm at the Black Bear Restaurant in Walnut Creek, Ca.

There was a motion, which was seconded and approved, to accept the minutes of the previous month's meeting.

President Mike called for activity reports.

The treasurer reported that the Marriott Hotel still owes Pacificon. The reason was that income was more than budgeted and expenses were less than the budget. There ensued a discussion about budget machinations.

It was reported that the website work needed to be completed soon.

Training reported the schedule of activity for 2016 and the effect on it by the students habits. There are 20 students committed at present.

Emergency services reported on the connection between the Club and Bay Area EMCOM operation. The required MOUs are close to being completed.

It was reported that Field Day Chair as yet is unfilled.

Jim, AF6PU, reported that he has been handling outside queries about our club facilities.

Pacificon was reported to have resolved most open matters, to date. We'll be meeting with the hotel and will report status when that is completed.

Tech Committee reported no change in repeater activity due to the weather. There aren't any current or anticipated expenses in the near future.

It was noted that the subject of whether various Network Control Operators in the area have permission to use our repeaters hasn't been looked into. There was a suggestion that we should be asking for compensation for their use and also require them to join the club.

The treasurer passed out this month's report on the Club and Pacificon balances which totalled \$96,282.50.

The subject of selling a membership listing to companies and stores was opened. It was discussed and no decision was arrived at.

Trevor Hall was asked about a rearrangement of the contents of the storage unit and whether we should keep the file cabinet in there.

A question was raised about the procurement of MDARC club mugs. The overall feeling was positive.

Jim, AF6PU reported on the plan to buy a club banner and said that he thinks that a price of \$45.00 is feasible for our needs.

President Mike adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM Respectfully submitted, Richard Fletcher, AF9RF Secretary

General Meeting Minutes January 15, 2016

Presided over by Mike Patterson, N6JGA, President

Reported by Richard Fletcher, AF9RF, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM

President moved for approval or edits of December, 2015 meeting minutes. Approved by attending members.

The treasurer's report was submitted and approved without inquiries. (For more information see the January Board minutes).

Education and Training notes were resented by John Primus, AF6RJ. The team members and their functions were described. Student count as of now was 31 enrolled.

The membership chair reported 272 of 360 members renewed as of this date. He also reported on the proposed new dues for first time members as \$30.00 dollars and is only available January 1st thru September 30th. President Mike called for and received a motion to approve. The members authorized the motion.

The tech team reported on their effort to get club banners for display at functions.

The Pacificon committee met with the hotel recently and reported positive progress.

The public service coordinator, Pete Harris, described his functions and called for additional coordinators to help with his efforts.

The VE group reported that tonight's efforts produced 3 test takers progressing from no call sign to general class license. There were 2 Technician and 2 Extra class licenses qualified as well.

Trevor Hal, WA6JAU, presented a check for \$21,770.09 representing the income from Pacificon, 2015.

Lauren Styles, WA6CIE reaffirmed the relationships between the Salvation Army and MDARC and described the nature and benefits of them. He called for assistance in particular with a new "FLEX" radio at their HQ.

President Mike call for any further new business and receiving none called the meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM. The meeting was followed by a presentation by Berkley professor David Messerschmitt on the subject of interstellar communications and the accompanying difficulties and possible solutions.

Respectfully Submitted, Richard Fletcher, AF9RF, Secretary

Description	2016 budget
Income	
Donations	\$100.00
Scholarships	\$0.00
Bank Interest	\$18.00
Annual Banquet	\$3,575.00
Auction	\$800.00
Book Sales	\$0.00
Food Sales	\$50.00
Newsletter & Membership directory	\$150.00
License Testing	\$100.00
Merchandise Sales	\$50.00
Education Dept. Income	\$200.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$0.00
Raffles	\$400.00
Membership Dues	\$10,000.00
PACIFICON Surplus to MDARC	\$21,770.09
Total Income	\$37,213.09
Expense	
Auction Committee	
Expenses to run auction	\$50.00
Auction payout	\$0.00
Total	\$50.00
Digital Media Committee	\$100.00
Education Expenses	\$300.00
EmComm Expenses	\$300.00
Field Day	
BBQ/food expense	\$300.00
Site Rental	\$175.00
Toilet Rental	\$425.00
Total	\$900.00
Holiday Dinner	
Decorations	\$145.00
Gifts	\$80.00
Meal Cost	\$3,250.00
Total	\$3,475.00
Meeting Expenses	
Meeting Place	\$1,000.00
Vice President Expenses	\$50.00
Food purchases for meetings	\$100.00
Presentation expenses	\$200.00
Raffle Expenses	\$45.00
Field Trips	\$0.00

Membership Department	
Misc printing/postage/etc	\$265.00
Printing/Mailing the Carrier	\$145.00
Printing member directory for sale	\$26.00
Total	\$436.00
Outreach	
Awards	\$300.00
Badges and Apparel	\$0.00
Books, Subscriptions	\$0.00
Donations	\$1,000.00
Printing/Copying	\$0.00
Marketing	\$200.00
Scholarships	\$0.00
Telephone, Telecommunications	\$0.00
Total	\$1,500.00
Repeater Operations	
Association Dues	\$20.00
Internet Service	\$960.00
Labor	\$5,000.00
License Renewal	\$0.00
Parts Purchase	\$500.00
Repeater Phone Service	\$516.00
Site Rental	
North Peak	\$1,800.00
South Peak	\$9,444.00
Total	\$18,240.00
Storage	\$840.00
Traller Maintenance	\$0.00
Treasurer's Expenses	
Accounting Fees	\$600.00
Bank Fees	\$0.00
Businesss Fees	\$80.00
Equipment Acquisition Reserve	\$700.00
Liability Insurance	\$850.00
Misc Expenses	\$110.00
PO Box Rental	\$132.00
Total	\$2,472.00
Total Expenses	\$30,008.00
Total Income	\$37,213.09
Balance	7,205.09

Submitted by Cathi Walton, KJ6YNO

25 Years Ago: FCC Establishes Codeless Technician Class License

By Matthew G. Vurek, N4DLA

After more than 16 years of study and controversy, on February 14, 1991, the “codeless” Technician class license became available for prospective amateur radio operators. The FCC’s objective was to provide a license to individuals “who desire to pursue the purpose of the amateur service and who can demonstrate they are qualified to operate amateur stations that transmit exclusively above 30 MHz.” The Novice class license remained for those as an entry-level license with a telegraphy requirement but with a less comprehensive written examination. The proposal for a codeless amateur license, once declared “Put to rest once and for all” in 1983 by then-FCC Chairman Mark Fowler, was now reality.

The FCC introduced this particular flavor of codeless licensing proposal in docket 90-55 on February 16, 1990. It was not, however, the first time the FCC proposed an amateur radio license devoid of a Morse telegraphy requirement. On December 4, 1974, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPR) contained in docket 20282, which stated, “We believe, under carefully considered provisions, a new ‘telephony-only’ license (the “Communicator class”), limited to frequencies above 144 MHz, could and should be incorporated into the Amateur Radio Service.” Many provisions in docket 20282, such as the increase in the Novice license RF power input limit from 75 to 250 watts, Technician class licensees received Novice class privileges, the Novice license became a renewable with a 5-year term and the abolition of the Conditional class license were adopted...but not the “Communicator” class license. On March 6, 1979, the FCC declared docket 20282 terminated but with the following caveat:

“We have decided to take no action at this time on the creation of a license which would have no telegraphy privileges or requirements. We firmly believe in the principle, articulated in [docket 20282], that in any licensing system there should be a logical relationship between the qualification requirements and the operator privileges authorized at each license class level. We feel that the (codeless) ‘Communicator Class,’ as proposed, was keeping with this principle; and we do not agree with the majority filing comments who asserted that the privileges to be conveyed by the “Communicator Class” were ‘out of proportion’ to the qualification requirements. We hope to revisit this matter latter in a new rulemaking proceeding.”

The “matter” was indeed revisited on February 1, 1983 when the FCC released an NPR in docket PR 83-28 titled, “Establishment of an Amateur Radio License Not Requiring a Demonstration of the Proficiency in the International Morse Code.” The FCC proposed two codeless license classes. The existing Technician class would be restricted to frequencies above 50 MHz but the licensee would be granted Novice band privileges upon passing a 5 words per minute code test. The “Experimenter” class, modeled after Canada’s “Digital Amateur Class” license, would convey all privileges above 144 MHz. The FCC left open for discussion the complexity of the examination elements for the Experimenter class license as Technician and higher class license examination elements already contained questions on digital techniques. The FCC also expressed concern about the administrative burden a new license class would create due to the additional publications and documentation it would require. However, the FCC looked favorably upon the creation of a codeless amateur license in this docket when it wrote:

“Beyond station identification and use in certain weak-signal communications modes, we notice that Morse code is seldom used on frequencies above 50 MHz, even though all amateur radio operators are currently required to demonstrate their proficiency in it prior to licensing. We then ask why the Federal Government should continue to require a skill which may have less utility than other skills in these bands for which the license would be granted to operate. We do not, for example, require applicants to demonstrate proficiency with a typewriter even though radio teleprinter may be the most efficient mode for certain ‘traffic’ handling. We believe that a more important qualification for an operator’s license is an individual’s ability to understand the Commission’s regulations and the radio station for which he/she is responsible. Other than this, we would leave to the individual as to whether learning the Morse code would benefit his/her endeavors in amateur radio.”

(continued on following page)

Others did not agree with the FCC's viewpoint regarding Morse code. After all, international treaties required Morse proficiency for all amateur radio licensees worldwide if they wished to operate on frequencies below 30 MHz. Then-ARRL President Vic Clark, W4KFC, wrote in the December 1982 *QST* magazine:

"Well, let us consider a few of the virtues ascribed to the art of communications by Morse code as set forth by those who have gained a measure of proficiency in its use.

"It is a unique, intimate and concise communications skill employed throughout the world.

"It involves no accent or pronunciation problems, providing a widely understood international language.

"It is the *only* radio communications mode that is understood readily by both man and machine."

On December 14, 1983, the FCC voted unanimously against the adoption of a codeless license. The docket received over 5,000 comments and the vast majority, estimated at a ratio of 20 to 1, were *against* dropping the Morse code requirement. During the period the codeless license was discussed, the number of amateur radio operators in the United States had increased from 300,000 in 1975 to over 400,000 in 1983. Meanwhile, only 150 codeless Digital Amateur Class license had been issued in Canada in the four years it had been available. In his remarks to the commissioners prior to the vote, FCC Private Radio Bureau Chief Robert Foosaner declared, "We find that knowledge of slow speed code is necessary to maintain the traditional public service requirement of safety, and, in defense problems...[it is recommended] we bury the concept of no code."

The "burial" was premature. On December 10, 1988, then-ARRL President Larry Price, W4RA, created a special study committee to explore the implications of a no-code amateur radio license. The committee, chaired by future president George Wilson, W4OYL, published their report in the May 1989 *QST* magazine. This proposal ended up being similar to the codeless license proposal that was eventually adopted in 1991, i.e., the creation of the Technician and Technician-plus license classes, but the committee wanted distinctive callsigns for the codeless license holders who would still have privileges above 30 MHz. On July 22, 1989, by a vote of 9 to 6, the ARRL Board of Directors authorized the filing of a petition with the FCC to create a new class of codeless license named the "Communicator" instead of Technician. This license would convey all privileges above 220 MHz, but holders could not be the control operator of an auxiliary or repeater station and would be authorized a maximum power output of 250 watts. The petition dropped the distinctive callsign requirement, which would have used the NA#AAA callsign block.

The FCC compiled the ARRL's petition, along with eleven others, to create docket PR 90-55, which was published on February 16, 1990 with comments due to the FCC by August 6, 1990. On February 14, 1991, the FCC announced the creation of the codeless Technician license and the Technician-plus license but retained the Novice license. Effective April 15, 2000, the FCC no longer issued new Advanced and Novice class licenses (but continued to renew existing ones) after the adoption of a long-awaited restructuring of Amateur Radio Service licensing. The Morse code test speed requirement was reduced from 20 words per minute (Amateur Extra) and 13 words per minute (General) to just 5 words per minute, the same as Technician-plus.

On February 23, 2007, the Morse code test speed requirement dropped to ZERO when the FCC adopted their *Report and Order* from WT 05-0235, which abolished Morse code tests for *all* amateur license classes and gave Technician class licensees the same HF privileges as those with Technician-plus. In their report, the FCC wrote, "This change eliminates an unnecessary regulatory burden that may discourage current amateur radio operators from advancing their skills and participating more fully in the benefits of amateur radio." Tuning through the amateur HF bands today, one hears plenty of Morse code activity over the airwaves, despite its elimination as a licensing requirement.



Severe UHF Satellite Interference Found!

In February 2016, our satellite ground station at W3ADO has been jammed for about a week with 60 dB over pulse (spread spectrum) Looks and sounds just like wifi but from below 420 to above 460 MHz.

Yesterday we built up a portable USB receiver and attenuator and began measurements.

Went everywhere in the building and outside. Could be heard 40 dB over everywhere in the building. But darned if the signal wasn't always just a bit stronger right at the Ground station console. Switched from omnidirectional to a hand-held beam. Still, the signal seemed strongest right at the console.

Turned off everything one by one. No change. Completely disconnected antenna, attenuator and cable but signal was still S9 into the AOR AR5000 portable receiver and good enough for sniffing. Still strongest right on the console.

BINGO! It was an Family Radio Service (FRS) walkie talkie, not used in years, that someone had pulled out of its charger (it was dead) and re-inserted a few days ago. As the dead FRS slowly attempted to charge up, somehow its processor must have gone wild trying to power up and that was it!

Remember, nothing electronics anymore has a real OFF switch. Just a processor that is always ON to sense the switch. When I pulled the radio from the charger, the noise instantly stopped and nothing we can do can recreate that one-in-a-million condition. And the FRS radio is still dead. But we can finally hear the noise floor again on the UHF band.

73, Bob Bruninga, WB4APR (via KA6SIP)



Ham Radio Course Forming Now!

Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club and SATERN

is holding an 8 week course where you can
upgrade your Amateur Radio License to
General Class

The General Class license is your gateway to all the world-wide
Amateur bands of excitement and Emergency Communications on
Ham Radio...and you do NOT need to learn Morse code!

This course is to upgrade your current
Technician License



Course begins on...

Thursday March 31st

7-9 pm Except the

First Class starts at 6:30

The Salvation Army

3950 Clayton Road, Concord 94521



Registration is required.

Class is FREE but there is a \$5 materials fee and Textbook if
needed is about \$27. *Each student must have full access to a copy of the
text.*

Follow up training License testing will also be available.

To sign up email: HamRadioClass@gmail.com

ARRL The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO

ANNOUNCING NOVICE RIG ROUNDUP 2016!!

DESCRIPTION: A thrilling week of amateur radio activity in February of 2016 where you radio amateurs contacted stations using vintage ham radio equipment from the early era of the NOVICE LICENSE. Any licensed radio amateur may participate.

Here is an opportunity to brush up your code skills with some guys, many of whom will be patient. Exchange some information for fun, swap SKCC numbers and compete for the honors! More of an EVENT than a typical contest, but still great fun.

We are taking our OLD radios off the dusty shelves and putting them on the desk! Bring out your straight keys and bugs. Do you have 1950s - 1980s era amateur radio equipment? Maybe you never lived through the novice era but you would like to know how it felt... how it sounded to communicate through the chirpy chirpit, chirpy chirp, crackle, spurt, splutter and occasional drift of the earlier tube-era radios.

Perhaps you would just like to hear some of the older rigs in action. Why wait until the next NRR? Makes some contacts this evening. Join our Facebook Group or Yahoo Group and find other operators to make schedules. See below.

RELIVE THE GLORIOUS NOVICE ERA! You may use ANY radio equipment you like, but the scoring will be higher for using real novice-era radios! Of course this will include manual straight keys, bugs, side swipers and other manual keying devices. Simple equipment, but stupendous fun!

DATES: FEBRUARY 19 - FEBRUARY 26, 2016 Local Times.

Actual time period is 0000 UTC FEB 20 until 0000 UTC FEB 27, 2016. Friday evening through Friday Evening. Begins at 6pm CST, 7 PM EST Friday FEB 19.

EXCHANGE: RST, NAME, QTH, RIG, XTAL or VFO, POWER (SKCC if desired.)

BANDS: 80m, 40m, 15, 10, 2m bands only

SUGGESTED FREQUENCIES: Around: 3560 - 3600 kHz

3579, 7065, 7080, 7100 - 7125 kHz

21.114, 21.120, 21.150 MHz

28.114, 28.120 MHz

144.085 and 144.450 MHz CW and AM where allowed

Operate CW anywhere that it is legal for your license class.

USE OF NOVICE ERA Frequencies suggested where possible.

USE: 3550-3600 (closest we can get now!) and 7100-7125 kHz

Plus 21.100 - 21.200 MHz and 28.100 MHz - 28.200 MHz

CATEGORIES by RF POWER OUTPUT LEVEL:

5 WATTS Maximum = QRP LEVEL

60 WATTS Maximum = NOVICE LEVEL

Above 60 Watts = GENERAL LEVEL NOTE that you cannot win in more than one category. Just doesn't seem fair - grin! Enter scores with your HIGHEST power level only. (*continued on next page*)

NOVICE RIG ROUNDUP SCORING:

- A) Other station using Novice rig with CRYSTAL CONTROL = 3 points. (4 points instead of 3 if they are using a homebrew tube transmitter or receiver.) 4 points MAXIMUM per contract.
- B) Other station using novice rig with VFO = 2 points. (3 points instead of 2 if they are using a homebrew transmitter.)
- C) Other station is using NON-Novice era rig = 1 point. (COMMERCIAL RIG BUILT AFTER 1999) - please use your best judgement on this. This rule was changed to meet some objections.
- D) You may count each station only once per band. Score points for only one contact with that station, once on each band.

MULTIPLIER:

The ONLY multiplier is the number of unique STATES, PROVINCES AND COUNTRIES you have worked. SPC may be easily tallied IF you use the AC2C logger program.

TAKE YOUR TOTAL QSO SCORE and multiply it by this number. That is your final score.

SPECIAL 2016 bonus may be added at the END for Getting an Official Observer report in the mail. Proof with a scan or FAX or photocopy may be sent in. Add bonus of 25 points. No extra points for multiple OO reports. We don't actively encourage sub-standard signals but realize some of these older rigs are prone to produce a little minor chirp or drift by today's standards!

Example: 45 QSOs with stations using a novice rig with crystal control = 135. PLUS 16 QSOs with stations using a NOVICE RIG with VFO = 32. PLUS 12 QSOs with stations running a LATER MODEL radio = 12. Your subtotal is 179. You worked 32 states, 4 Canadian Provinces and 8 DX countries. So THEN multiply this 179 by 44 and your final sub score is 7876. Add 25 points for an OO report and your final score to submit is 7901 POINTS.

SUBMITTING YOUR LOG AND CLAIMED SCORE: We vastly prefer E-mail or FAX submission please!!
YOU MUST INCLUDE A SUMMARY SHEET!!!!

Use e-mail, FAX or U.S. Mail to send in your LOG in ADIF or paper format. BE SURE to include a summary sheet with your total contacts and multiplier along with your final claimed score.

Two items are needed: LOG and SUMMARY SHEET showing your calculations.

Use of AC2C SKCCLogger software is suggested. E-mail to: af4k@af4k.com FAX TO: 973-965-1173

LOG and SCORE SUBMISSION DEADLINE shall be MARCH 15, 2016.

Postal submissions (NOT PREFERRED!) go to:

Brian Carling, AF4K
117 Sterling Pine Street
Sanford, FL 32773

AWARDS: Antique style certificate with your score for all entrants. Everyone who submits a log will receive a quality certificate for participation. Special award certificate for highest score in each category.

ADDITIONAL RULES:

All radio amateurs worldwide are eligible to participate. Any licensed amateur radio station may participate. You do NOT need to be using "NOVICE STYLE" radios to participate, but of course this is encouraged. This will be an annual event held for one week in the month of February.

SIGN UP NOW for Novice Rig Roundup at: http://k5myj.com/novice_rig_roundup.htm

RESULTS WILL BE CHECKED AND TALLIED AND THEY WILL POSTED ON THIS WEB PAGE.

73, Brian Carling, AF4K

"Dose of Awareness" 5K Walk / Health Expo

FREE Family Event!

Join us for a fun, interactive way to learn about prescription drug dangers and how to keep your family safe!



Join Us!

Sunday, February 28, 2016
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Iron Horse Middle School
12601 Alcosta Blvd.
San Ramon, CA 94583

**DROP OFF UNWANTED
AND EXPIRED MEDICATIONS
AND USED SHARPS!**

Hosted by



Spread the Word...One Pill Can Kill

2016 EMCEE

Cheryl Jennings
ABC7 KGO News

OPENING REMARKS

April Rovero
National Coalition
Against Prescription
Drug Abuse

Bill Clarkson
San Ramon Mayor

Karen Stepper
Danville Mayor

Steve Glazer
California State Senator

Catharine Baker
California State
Assemblywoman

Candace Andersen
Contra Costa County
Supervisor



GUEST SPEAKERS

State and County Health Agencies • Law
Enforcement • Treatment and Support
Resources • Health and Wellness Experts

FAMILY FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES

Youth Activity Center • Naloxone Training
and Rescue Kits • CPR and AED Device
Demos • Lost Loved Ones Memorial • Photo
Booth • Free Stuff and More...

For more information and registration, visit www.ncapda.org.

HAM RADIO OUTLET

14 STORE BUYING POWER!

ICOM



IC-7600 | All Mode Transceiver

- 100W HF/6m Transceiver, gen cov. receiver • Dual DSP 32 bit • Three roofing filters- 3, 6, 15kHz • 5.8 in WQVGA TFT display • Hi-res real time spectrum scope



IC-7200 | HF Transceiver

- 160-10M • 100W • Simple & tough with IF DSP • AGC Loop Management • Digital IF Filter • Digital Twin PBT • Digital Noise Reduction • Digital Noise Blanker • USB Port for PC Control



IC-7100 | All Mode Transceiver

- HF/50/144/430/440 MHz Multi-band, Multi-mode, IF DSP • D-STAR DV Mode (Digital Voice + Data) • Intuitive Touch Screen Interface • Built-in RTTY Functions



ID-5100A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Digital Transceiver

- Analog FM/D-Star DV Mode • SD Card Slot for Voice & Data Storage • 50W Output on VHF/UHF Bands • Integrated GPS Receiver • AM Airband Dualwatch • FM Analog/DV Repeater List Function

ID-51A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver

- 5/2.5/1.0/0.5/0.1W Output • RX: 0.52-1.71, 88-174, 380-479 MHz** • AM/FM/FM-N/WFM/DV • 1304 Alphanumeric Memory Chls • Integrated GPS • D-STAR Repeater Directory • IPX7 Submersible



KENWOOD



TS-590SG | HF/50MHz Transceiver

- Equipped with 500 Hz/2.7 kHz roofing filter as standard • ALC derived from TS-990S eliminating spike issues • Antenna output function (shared with DRV connector) • CW - morse code decoder function



TM-D710G | 2M/440 Dualband

- V+V/V+U/U+U operation • Built-in GPS • Built-in TNC for APRS & DX-Cluster operation • 50W 2M & UHF • 1,000 memories • Dual receive • Green or amber backlight colors • Latest APRS firmware w/new features • Sky Command II remote functions



TM-V71A | 2M/440 DualBand

- High RF output (50W) • Multiple Scan • Dual receive on same band (VxV, UxU) • Echolink® memory (auto dialer) • Echolink® Sysop mode for node terminal ops • Invertible front panel • Choice of green/amber for LCD panel • 104 code digital code squelch



TM-281A | 2 Mtr Mobile

- 65 Watt • 200 Memories • CTCSS/DCS • Mil-Std specs • Hi-quality audio

TH-F6A | 2M/220/440

- Dual channel receive • .1 - 1300 MHz (cell blocked) RX • FM, AM, SSB • 5W 2M/220/440 TX, FM • 435 Memories • Li-Ion Battery



YAESU
The radio



FT-991 | HF/50MHz/2M/440 Transceiver

- 160 M-440MHz - SSB/CW/FM/C4FM Digital/AM/RTTY/PSK • 100 W (2M/440: 50 Watts) • 3.5" TFT full-color touch panel operation • High speed spectrum scope • Roofing filters: 3kHz & 15kHz • 32-bit high speed floating point IF DSP



FTDX1200 | 100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- Triple Conversion Receiver With 32-bit Floating Point DSP • 40 MHz 1st IF with selectable 3 kHz, 6kHz & 15 kHz Roofing Filters • Optional FFT-1 Supports AF-FFT Scope, RTTY/PSK31 Encode/Decode, CW Decode/Auto Zero-In • Full Color 4.3" TFT Display



FT-450D | A100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- 100W HF/6M • Auto tuner built-in • DSP built-in • 500 memories • DNR, IF Notch, IF Shift



FTM-400DR | 2M/440 Mobile

- Color display-green, blue, orange, purple, gray • GPS/APRS • Packet 1200/9600 bd ready • Spectrum scope • Bluetooth • MicroSD slot • 500 memory per band

FT-60R | 2M/440 5W HT

- Wide receiver coverage • AM air band receive • 1000 memory channels w/alpha labels • Huge LCD display • Rugged die-cast, water resistant case • NOAA severe weather alert with alert scan



5 Ways to Shop!

- RETAIL LOCATIONS - Store hours 10:00AM - 5:30PM - Closed Sunday
- PHONE - Toll-free phone hours 9:30AM - 5:30PM
- FAX - All store locations
- ONLINE - WWW.HAMRADIO.COM
- MAIL - All store locations

ANAHEIM, CA
(800) 854-6046

OAKLAND, CA
(877) 892-1745

SUNNYVALE, CA
(877) 892-1749

PORTLAND, OR
(800) 765-4267

PHOENIX, AZ
(800) 559-7388

WOODBIDGE, VA
(800) 444-4799

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(877) 455-8750

BURBANK, CA
(877) 892-1748

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WWW.HAMRADIO.COM

New Store!

Contact HRO for promotion details. Toll-free including Hawaii, Alaska and Canada. Call will be routed to the nearest store. All HRO 800-lines can assist you. If the first line you call is busy, you may call another. AZ, CA, CO, GA, VA residents add sales tax. Prices, specifications and descriptions subject to change without notice.



The Carrier

Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 23222

Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

www.mdarc.org



FIRST CLASS



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Club



<https://www.facebook.com/mdarc.org>

W6CX Nets

Monday 7:00 pm Washington High School Net 147.060+

Monday 8:00 pm SATERN Net 147.060+

Thursday 7:30 pm MDARC Club Net 147.060+

Thursday 8:00 pm Amateur Television Net 147.060+

Tuesday 7:30 pm Fat City 10 meter USB/CW Net 28.420 MHz

FM 147.060 MHz + / PL 100Hz - EchoLink: W6CX-R /133896, IRLP: 3057
224.780 MHz - / PL 77Hz 441.325 MHz + / PL 100Hz

D-STAR 145.000 offset plus 2.5 MHz

<https://w6cx.dstargateway.org/>

Digital ATV Output 1244.500

Digital ATV Input 1292.500

ATV Inputs: 1289.25 MHz AM; 1270.000 FM pl 192.8 915.0 AM 427.0 AM

ATV Internet Stream: <http://www.w6cxatv.net/live>

Contra Costa County Emergency Communications Nets

Every Thursday

<http://www.coco-races.org/meetings/nets/>

6:35 pm HF Countywide 3.893 MHz LSB

6:45 pm West County 145.110-- (82.5 PL)

7:00 pm Central County 145.680 Simplex

7:00 pm East County 146.535 Simplex

7:00 pm South County 146.355+ (77.0 PL)

7:20 pm Countywide 145.490-- (107.2 PL)

or 147.735+ (107.2 PL)

or 145.410 -- (107.2 PL)

Concord Auxiliary Radio Emergency Service (CARES)

Wednesday 8:00pm 147.405 Simplex

February and March 2016 Club Calendar

Friday February 19, 2016 7:30pm MDARC General Meeting -
Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette

Monday March 7, 2016 7:30pm MDARC Board Meeting
Black Bear Restaurant, 700 Bancroft Avenue, Walnut Creek

Saturday March 5, 2016 8:00 am MDARC Technical Committee
Environmental Center, 2581 Harbor Street, Pittsburg

Friday March 18, 2016 7:30pm MDARC General Meeting
Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette